



## ecology and environment, inc.

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International Specialists in the Environment

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Paul LaCourreya, EPA Region 9 Site Screening Coordinator

FROM: Michael Schwennesen, Ecology and Environment, Inc.

DATE: March 22, 1988

SUBJECT: Reassessment of General Electric Co.  
6900 Stanford Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90001

EPA ID#: CAD980816144

THROUGH: Dan Millison, Ecology and Environment, Inc.

COPY: FIT Master File  
Patty Cook, Ecology and Environment, Inc.  
California Department of Health Services, Los Angeles

### INTRODUCTION

Under Technical Directive Document Number F9-8709-019, Ecology and Environment, Inc.'s Field Investigation Team (FIT) has been tasked to reassess all Preliminary Assessments (PAs) in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) with "active" or "pending" status according to guidelines established to implement the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). The strategy for determination of further action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) is based solely on each site's potential to achieve a score high enough on the Hazard Ranking System (HRS) for inclusion on the National Priorities List (NPL). This strategy is intended to identify those sites posing the highest relative risk to human health or the environment. All other sites needing remedial or enforcement follow-up will be referred to the State or an appropriate Federal agency.

This site was evaluated primarily using the original HRS model. Additionally, this site was also evaluated for its potential to score using the draft revised HRS model. The following is a summary of FIT's findings with regard to this site.

## SUMMARY

The General Electric Company (GE) owned and operated the facility at 6900 Stanford Avenue in Los Angeles from 1946 to 1971. GE used it for the repair and servicing of electrical equipment, including transformers. Spent oils containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from transformers were evidently dumped at the rear of the site near some railroad tracks.

The site was sampled in 1983 by the Los Angeles County Health Department (LACHD) and was determined to have extensive PCB contamination. Following remedial soil excavations, further sampling was undertaken which indicated that contamination was still present. At this time, the LACHD and the California Department of Health Services (DOHS) are the lead agencies on this site. The DOHS is currently reviewing a work plan to clean up GE which was submitted by General Electric.

An HRS prescoring of GE by FIT indicates that it will not attain a sufficient score for placement on the NPL. This low score is due to a low waste quantity, low values for groundwater route characteristics, and low values for the surface water pathway. In addition, it is highly unlikely that surface or groundwater contamination can result from PCB spills due to the low solubility of PCBs in water.

## RECOMMENDATION

### 1) EPA

FIT recommends no further action at GE under CERCLA. This recommendation is based on the low preliminary HRS score for GE that was determined by:

- o low groundwater route characteristics;
- o low waste quantity; and
- o lack of surface water targets.

### 2) State or Other Agency

Copies of this reassessment will be sent to the LACHD and the CDHS for their consideration.

## EPA CONCURRENCE

Initial

Date

No Further Action Under CERCLA

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6.25.88

High Priority SSI

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Medium Priority SSI

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CONTACT REPORT

AGENCY: DOHS  
ADDRESS: 107 South Broadway  
PERSON  
CONTACTED: Jim Smith  
PHONE NO.: (213) 628-2380  
FROM: Kathleen Yokota  
TO: File  
DATE: 8/26  
SUBJECT: GE, Los Angeles

I asked him how the consent order was going. He said that DOHS had not yet heard from GE, but he feels that GE will cooperate. He also said that DOHS is prioritizing the superfund sites and is going to try and score GE on direct contact because there hasn't been any ground-water contamination.

The removal of underground storage tanks is being considered a separate issue from the rest of the cleanup.

I told him that I was going to refer the site to DOHS in the PA and he agreed.

## APPENDIX A

# GENERAL ELECTRIC

## COMPANY

6900 STANFORD AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90001 . . . TELEPHONE PL 2-6136

SERVICE SHOPS

DEPARTMENT

LOS ANGELES APPARATUS  
SERVICE SHOP

January 19,, 1983

Ann McGill Gorsuch  
Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
401 M Street S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Ms. Gorsuch:

From February 1946 thru December 1971 - over 25 Years - the General Electric Company operated an Apparatus Repair Service Shop at the location shown on this old letterhead.

One of the departments in this repair facility was Industrial Transformers. Both 10c oil and pyranol (PCB) filled transformers were processed in the same manner and over the 25 year period several thousand units were repaired. The standard procedure was to pump the old 10c oil or pyranol (PCB) into drums for disposal by various vendors contracted by General Electric,, but the smaller units - 10 to 50 gallon - were often dumped. A favorite dumping location was the edge of the steam clean platform which bordered the railroad right of way behind the shop. Small transformer tanks containing 10c oil and pyranol (PCB) were upended all along the chain link fence separating the two properties.

If only 100 gallons per week were dumped in this manner, we have -

100 gallons x 52 weeks x 25 years = 130,000 gallons

If half were pyranol (PCB) we have -

65,000 GALLONS OF POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENOLS

Please remember that pyranol (PCB) (manufactured by Monsanto for General Electric) was not considered to be dangerous at that time.

As I see it - the 10c oil will cause no problem but the pyranol (PCB) which contains deadly dioxin - one part per million is all that is permissible - certainly will. I assume that by now it is in the underground water supply for the entire Los Angeles basin.

For personal reasons I will not sign as I wish to remain anonymous.

C/C Mayor Bradley  
City of Los Angeles